PUBLIC LANDS-CONGRESS IN SESSION. AN IMPORTANT R PORT PERFECTED AFTER EIGHT MONTES OF LABOR-MR. WEAVER-THE NEWS IN

An important report on the public lands has been prepared by the Special Commission appointed to take that subject into consideration. The suggestions it contained are presented to-day exclusively by THE TRIBUNE. The Commission will soon report to Congress, recommendpassage of a bill reorganing the izing the Land Office, classifying the public lands and making conditions upon which lands of each class may be settled. Among the important provisions will be those relating to homestead colonies, to the preservation and reproduction of timber and to the disposal of mineral lands. Congress was in session yesterday, but Mr. Weaver was not recognized in the House. The Ute prisoners are to be left at Fort Leavenworth.

A NEW SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS. A RADICAL CHANGE IN THE LAWS RECOMMENDED-THE PLAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, Feb. 23 .- One of the most important subjects for legislative action with which the present Congress will be cailed upon to deal is

that of the public lands. For the last eight months the Public Lands Commission, which was organized under the Act of March 3, 1879, has been busily engaged in the performance of its duties. During the Summer and Antumu the members of the Commission visited most of the Western States and Territories and gathered a large amount of testimony bearing upon the various subjects committed to it for investigation and recommendation by act of Congress.

Since December 1 the members of the Commission have been in session in this city busy in digesting the testimony taken and in preparing their report. It is understood that the Commission will soon submit a preliminary report to Congress, and that the report will be accompanied by the draft of a bill to unify and amend the present laws relating to the survey and sale of public lands.

It is bighly probable, from what is known in a general way of the opinion of the members of the Commission, and of the testimony gathered by them, that their report will recommend and the bill will embody some very important provisions and radical changes.

REORGANIZATION OF LAND OFFICE. It is balls ved that the Commission will report in favor of a reorganization of the General Land Office and a material increase in the official and clerical force, both of which are at present inadequate to perform the necessary duties imposed upon them. Another recommendation will probably be a provision for regulating appeals in contested cases. It is probable, too, that important changes will be made in regard to the methods of survey and the officers employed to survey the public lands.

Among the changes recommended will probably be provisions that swamp lands and pasturage lands may hereafter be surveyed and patented by townships, that better provisions shall be made for making the boundaries of surveyed tracts, that the system of letting public surveys by contract be discontinued, and that surveys and boundaries between States and Territories shall be bereafter made under direction of the Coast and Geodetic Survey. The Commission will probably recommend that the office of Receiver at each local land office be abolished. There are now about ninety-five of these officers. If this recommendation is made and car-

ried out it will save a great deal of expense. The Cammissioners will probably recommend a flivision of public lands into five general classes, arable, irrigable, pasturage, timber and mineral Some of the most important recommendations of the Commission, it will probably be found, relate to the manner of disposing of the various classes of public lands.

ARABLE AND IRRIGABLE LANDS.

It is beheved that the Commission will recommend the repeal of the Preëmption law, on the general ground that its chief use now is to increase the size of individual holdings of public land, a result which it is known the members of the Commission tonsider at best of doubtful value. Having made this recommendation, they will probably supplement it by another to the effect that bereafter arable public lands shall be disposed of under the Home-

The provision of the Timber Culture act will brobably be preserved, but the benefits will be restricted to those persons who may be actually engazed in perfecting titles to other entries under the Homestead law, or who have gained such titles, and continue to reside on their homestead. The present laws regarding town site locations will probably not

The Commission will probably recommend that no limit be placed upon the amounts of irrigable land which any one person may buy. It has been found in practice that the amount of capital irrigate land successfully is so large that individual settlers cannot undertake the enterprise. Among the recommendations on this subject will probably be that the land shall sold at 25 cents per acre, one-fifth to be paid down and the balance at the end of three years, and that no patent to such land snall be issued until it is shown that a specified sum per acre-say \$2-has been expended on its reclamation.

PASTURAGE LANDS. Lands classed as pasturage will comprise un timbered and new mineral lands not arable or capable of irrigation. They embrace a large proportion of the areas of many of the Western States and Territories. Respecting the disposal of these lands it is expected that some highly important changes will be recommended. As to the quantity of land which one person may buy, the Commission will probably recommend it be not limited, for the reason that at least four square miles, or 2,560 acres, of such land will be required to equal in value 160 acres of

It is believed that the price of these pasturage lands will be graduated as follows: All lands sold prior to January 1, 1886, to be at the rate of \$1 25 an acre; all lands sold from the latter date to January 1, 1890, to be at the rate an aere; after the date last mentioned all lands remaining to be held and sold at 75 cents an acre; at the expiration of every three years after January 1, 1890, the price of the lands remaining unsold to be reduced 1212 cents per acre until a minimum price of 1212 cents an acre is reached, when no further reduction shall be made.

There will also probably be a recommendation to the effect that pasturage lands shall be open to Homestead settlement, no one entry to comprise more than 2,560 acres. On filing such an entry the settler will probably be required to pay a fixed sum,

HOMESTEAD COLONIES.

It is quite probable, from intimations that have been dropped from time to time by members of the m, that they will make a general recom ndation in favor of Homestead Colonies. One of the hindrances of homestead settlement in the sparely-peopled regions of the West, under the pres ent law, is the lack of society and school and church privileges. This will be found a far greater obstacle if the size of each homestead is made sixteen times as great as now, and that will be the case if pasturage homesteads of 2,560 acres each are granted. The Commission will therefore be very likely to recommend that where a colony of twenty or more families desire to enter esteads, either on the arable, the irrigable or the

pasturage lands of the United States, they shall be permitted to do so, and that they may lay out a village as near as may be to the centre of the tract of land entered, and live therein without prejudice to their rights as homesteaders; provided they culti-vate and use the lands they have entered. If this recommendation should be made and adopted, it is believed that it would greatly stimulate home-stead settlements.

TIMBER LANDS.

In the remote Western States and Territories the question of ownership of timber lands and timber has long been a vexed one. It is believed that the Commission will recommend a radical change in the policy regarding lands of this class—so radical, indeed, that it will be likely to evoke considerable opposition in some quarters. Among the recommendations of the Commission in regard to timber lands will probably be found the following:

First—That all timber lands (except those having minerals) which are chiefly valuable for timber of commercial value shall be withdrawn from sale.

Second—That all timber over a certain size, say eight inches in diameter, growing on the even numbered sections of public land, may be sold for cash in lots of not less than forty acres or more than 640 acres each.

Third-That such timber lands be divided into Third—That such timber lands be divided into three grades, and sold at prices corresponding to the value of the timber growing in each grade.

Fourth—Persons purchasing timber as above shall remove it within a specified period, say five years, or forfeit both the timber and purchase money.

Fifth—That as soon as timber is sold it shall become subject to taxation like other property.

Sixth—That the Government shall retain the title

Seventh-That citizens of the United States may be permitted to cut and remove from any public lands, other than those classified as "tumber lands," such tumber as they may require for agricultural, building, unning or other purposes, but not for the purpose of selling.

purpose of selling.

It is believed that the above, and perhaps other recommendations of a similar character, will be made with a view to the preservation and reproduction of the forests of the West. It is altogether probable, too, that some additional provisions may be suggested to prevent depredations upon timber lands not subject to entry or sale as above.

MINERAL LANDS. MINERAL LANDS.

The present multifarious and conflicting laws and regulations respecting the disposal of mineral lands in the West, and the endlesss litigation to which they have led, make this subject the most difficult of any with which the Commission has had to deal. From what is known of the views of individual members of the Commission, especially those of Director King and Major Powell, it is of Director King and Major Powell, it is believed that the recommendation relating to the disposal of mineral lands will favor a radical change. In general terms it is known that the gentlemen named believe that, if mining is to be continued and conducted as a legitimate business, existing laws and customs must be radically changed. It is believed, therefore, that among the recomendations of the Commission regarding the disposal of mineral lands will be found the follow-ing:

disposal of mineral lands will be found the following:

First—That the time during which a prospector or discoverer shall be able to hold his claim by a possessory title shall be fixed and limited by law.

Second—That all local organizations and regulations respecting mining titles shall be abolished, and the sole jurisdiction of all questions relating thereto be reserved by the United States.

Third—That the "loce location," which permits a discoverer to follow a lode any distance in any direction, whether within the boundaries of his surface location or not, be repealed.

Fourth—That hereafter every mining claim shall comprise a certain number of feet in breadth and length on the surface; and that subterraneau property rights shall not extend beyond the surface boundaries thus fixed. It is quite probable that the Commission may refrain for the present from making any recommendatious as to the area which each location may comprise.

Fifth—That asystem of official survey and mineral inspection be adopted to prevent blackmail and robbery, and to obviate the necessity of legal contests before claims are patented.

The report of the Commission will probably contain a number of recommendations besides those outlined above; but those mentioned are believed to be of the greatest importance and general interest to the public.

LOTTERIES AND THE MAILS. IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23 .- The final decision in the Louisiana Lottery case was made in the Supreme Court of the District to-day.

The opinion was delivered by Judge Cox. It affirms the constitutionality of the law under which the Postmaster-General has been acting, and interprets it to give power to stop registered letters and money orders addressed to any man whom the Department may find to be engaged in fraudulent lot tery enterprises.

Chief-Justice Cariter dissented from a part of the opinion upon this point. He held the law to be constitutional, but that it was only applicable to fraudulent lettes and not to the entire registered mail of a person know to be interested in fraudu

Judge James dissented in respect to the constitutionality of the statute, so that the Court upon this point stands 5 to 1 on affirming its constitution-

The opinion of Judge Cox is adverse to the granting of the mandamus prayed for by the counsel of the lottery company to compel the Postmaster-General to withdraw his order. In this opinion Judge James concurs, but Chief-Justice Carter dissents, holding that a mandamus could issue.

The Department will now proceed criminally against some of the agents of the lottery companies in New-York, and perhaps in other cities, under the statute which makes it a crime, punishable by fine, statute which makes it a crime, punishable by fine, to deposit lottery circulars in the mails. Special agents of the Department have been accommulating evidence upon this point for some months, and it is believed enough has been gathered to make conviction probable, if not certain.

The Lottery company has taken an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, but the case cannot, probably, be reached within two or three years.

MR. WEAVER STILL UNRECOGNIZED.

UNASHINGTON, Feb. 23.-Another Monday has passed in the House of Representatives, and Mr.

Weaver still remains "unrecognized," The financial resolution which, for the last five weeks, has proved a veil that has prevented the Speaker from recognizing Mr. Weaver, was not brought out to-day at all. Before the moment arrived when the Greenback leader could claim the floor a special order of the House intervened.

The Speaker was much more willing to listen to personal culogiums upon the late Representative Lay than he was to dodge the fierce glances and renain deaf to the persuasive tones of Mr. Weaver, Of course Monday did not pass without the intro

duction of a lot of new bills. Among the measure brought out to-day was one by Mr. Vance, of North Carolina, to prevent the persecution of illiet distillers. Mr. Vance has a warm side toward " moonshiners," and does not want them subjected to un-Mr. Blackburn brought in a number of interesting

bills. One provides for the abolition of the tax upon tobacco. The other is to reduce the tux upon distilled spirits to 50 cents a gallon. With free tobacco and cheap whiskey Mr. Blackburn's constituents

yould be well pleased. Mr. Hill, of Ohio, is very much disturbed by the quantities of grain that are hearded in elevators and warehouses. He brought in a resolution to in-quire into the matter, and find out what action, if any, Congress can take to prevent corners in corn

DISPOSITION OF THE UTE PRISONERS.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, Feb. 23 .- The Secretary of the Interior has telegraphed instructions to General Adams to leave the prisoners in his custody at Fort Leavenworth, where they will remain for the pres-

There is thought to be no law under which they can be tried and punished; but the chief object which the Secretary had in view in demanding their surrender has already been partially accomplished. The precedent has by this event been established, and will hereafter be followed, that Indians who commit crimes against whites must be surrendered for such punishment as the laws may prescribe.

[For Congressional Proceedings and Work of the Comm

HERAT AND THE EUROPEAN RIVALS IN ASIA.



The London correspondent of The Tribune recently telegraphed that it was generally believed that the Government contemplated assuming a protectorate of Persia and effecting with her a joint occupation of Herat. The importance of this announcement will be appreciated when the accompanying map is occupation of Herat. The importance of this announcement will be appreciated when the accompanying map is studied. Herat is situated in Western Afghanistan (near the centre of the map), about 350 miles from Candahar which is occupied at present by the British forces. General Roberts still remains at Cabul, and between his column and the garrison at Candahar is massed an Afghan army under Mahomet Jan, in the vicinity of Ghuznes This stronghold will be the objective point of the British staff during the appreaching campaign; but it is not likely that any advance can be made in the direction of Herat. The paclification of Afghanistan cannot be completed until this turbulent city on the western frontier is reduced to subjection; and, hence, the alternative policy of a Persian occupation of the city has been suggested. Quetta, on the northern edge of Beleochistan, will soon have railway communication with the Indus Valley line (see man), and if Candahar be permanently occupied, the road will undoubtedly be extended in the direction of Herat. The deepening and improvement of the Harbor of road will undoubtedly be extended in the direction of Herat. The deepening and improvement of the Harbor of Kurrachee (see map) will enable the largest transports to land troops and supplies at the terminus of the railroad.

To the north of Herat lies Mery, toward which the recent expeditions sent out from the Caspian have been marching. The actual southern base of the Caspian. Bokhara and Khiva are vassai States of the Northern Power; so that its sway virtually extends to the borders of Bakh and Khulm. The wastes between Mery and

Power; so that its sway virtually extends to the borders of Backh and Khulm. The wastes between Merv and Bujnurd have never been traversed by Russian troops, as the invading columns which have set out from the Caspian ring recent campaigns have been beaten back by the Tekke Turcomans in the Atrek Valley. It is probabl military operations will be resumed by the Russians this Spring, and that the principal column will be directed against the Turcomans from Samarcand, rather than the Caspian. The northern boundary of Afghanistan (not indicated in the map) is the mountain range of the Hindoo Koosh. The Khanate of Bakkh has paid tribute alternately to Bokhara and Cabul, and can offer no resistance to the movements of the Russian forces. If Merv is captured during the approaching campaign, the garrison at Herat, whether Afghan, Persian or British, will be menneed whenever the march of the Northern Power southward is resumed.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

THE GREAT RUSSIAN CONSPIRACY. TRACES OF THE PLOT-A PRINCE'S ACCOUNT.

ST. PETERSBURG, Monday, Feb. 23, 1880. The Official Messenger announces that the inquiry into the Winter Palace explesion has had the re-sult of rendering it to some extent certain that the se was committed by a person who passed as a tion between this person and some individuals who were arrested previous to the explosion.

HOW PRINCE ALEXANDER ESCAPED DEATH. LONDON, Monday, Feb. 23, 1880.

A portion of a letter from Prince Alexander of Hesse to his wife, dated St. Petersburg, February 17, and published here, says: "I was received at the rankay station by all the sons of the Emperor and by Prince Alexander by all the seus of the Emperor and by Prince Alexander of Bulearia (the writer's own son), and was thence couducted to the Winter Palace. The Emperor awaited me at the staircase. We were proceeding through the large corridor to His Majesty's apartments when sufficing a fearful detonation was heard, the flooring was raised as by an cartiquake, the gas extinguished and we were left in total darkness. At the same time a horribio dust and smell of gunpowder or dynamite filled the corridor.

rider.

"Some one shouted to us that the chandeller had fallen "Some one shouted to us that the chandeller had fallen down in the saioon where the table was laid for dioner. I hastened thither with the Czarewitch and the Grand I wike Viadimer, while Count Adlerberg, in doubt as to what might happen, held back the Emperor. We found all the windows groken and the walls in tuins. The didner had been delayed but an hour for my arrival, and it was owing to this effective that the Imperial family had not yet assembled in the dining hall."

As a Determinant dispatch to The Dulla Telegraph

family had not yet assembled in the dining hall."

A St. Petersburg dispatch to The Daily Telegraph "General Gourke, Governor General of St. Petersburg, General Drentels, Chief of Imperial Police and General Zouroff, Prefect of Police of St. Petersburg. have received notices from a Nihilist committee inform ing them that they need not trouble themselves to make arrangements for illuminations on the occasion of the Czar's anniversary, as the Revolutionists are preparing for such an illumination as has not been seen since Nero burned Rema."

COUNTER ATTACKS IN PARLIAMENT. THE HOME RULERS AND THE GOVERNMENT IN COL-

LONDON, Monday, Feb. 23, 1880. In the House of Commons to-day Sir Stafford Northcote gave notice that on Thursday he would move a resolution that whenever any member was named by the Speaker or chairman of committee as distegarding the authority of the Chair or abusing the rules of the House by persistently obstructing business, the Speaker shall put the question without debate, amendment or adjournment; that such member be suspended during the remainder of that day's sitting, and if any member be turice suspended in third suspension be for one week, after which a motion may be made for a continuance of the suspension; but the suspended member will have the right to be heard in

ceply to such motion. Subsequently Mr. Sullivan (Home Rule, Louth) moved that Earl Cadogan, for speaking at an electoral meeting at Chelses, be summoned before the bar of the House for breach of privilege, as no Peer is allowed to interfere with elections, and that a Major Jocelyn be also sum moned to the bar of the House, as he a' the same meet ing characterized the Home Rulers as " a despleable band of Irish rebels."

Sir Stafford Northcole pointed out that the meeting was an ordinary meeting of the Conservative Associ-

Sir William Harcourt (Liberal) opposed the motion by noving the previous question, but said the Chancellor moving the previous question, but said the Chancellor of the Exchequer had to than himself for it fly his ourse in the Plimsell affair.

The previous question was adopted by a vote of 220 to 15.

Mr. O'Donnell (Home Rule, Dungarvan) proceeded to raise another question of breach of marking.

raise another question of breach of privilege.

Mr. Sullivan, in his speech on his motion, incidentally expressed his intention of raising a question of breach of expressed his intention of raising a quee-privilege by newspapers.

These proceedings of the Irish members are doubtless in retaliation for the motion against obstruction.

THE DIAMOND DISCOVERY DOUBTED.

Professor Roscoe, of Owens College, Manhester, says he regards the evidence thus far submitted by Mr. J. Ballantyne Hennay, as insufficient to establish the conclusion that he has discovered a pro-

LONDON, Monday, Feb. 23, 1880.

AN INDIAN LEADER BEHEADED. LONDON, Monday, Feb. 23, 1880. A dispatch from Calcutta to The Times "Chendrich, the leader of the Rumpa rebellion,

The Italian Government has offered three prizes, amounting to \$1,800, for vineyards raised from grafts of American varieties of grape-vines, capable of resisting the attacks of physioxera.

LEMOINNE ELECTED SENATOR.

Pagis, Monday, Feb. 23, 1880. Debats, was to-day elected a Scuator for life. He reseived 142 votes and 05 votes were thrown against him of which the greater number were blanks, while about 20 were for various other candidates.

THE RECEPTION OF GRANT AT VERA CRUZ. A PLEASANT GREETING AS HE LANDED ON MEXICAN

Mexico, Feb. 19 (via Brownsville, Texas) -General Grant and party arrived at Cruz on the morning of the 18th instant. The steamer City of Alexandria was sighted in the harbor at 5:30 o'clock in the morning. The Mexican gunboat Independencia sailed to meet her. having on board Minister Foster, Seffer Romero, General Mexia and several officers of the army and navy, and scorted her into the port at 8 o'clock.

General Grant and party embarked in a small sailing ssel, escorted by a procession of boats. The ships in he harbor were dressed in honor of the guest and a sa the nation were dressed in honor of the guest and a sa-inte was fired on the mole. The General was met by the Committee of the Agintamento or City Govern-ment and by them was welcomed as the guest of the city. The General and party were conducted to the rest-dence of Dr. Trowbritze, the United States Coisall, where the General received the visits of the Governor, the Commanding Officer and other officials and various committees. The General was then escorted to the Mer-cantile Club, and after partaking of an official breskeast in the middle of the day, the visiting party took the train for Ofizaba.

THE MYSTERIOUS CRIME IN BOSTON. WAS IT MURDER OR SUICIDE !- THE POLICE IN QUEST

OF HILL.
Boston, Feb. 23.—The police are strongly

of opinion that Edmund Lavele, the thief found dead n his room at the South End, was killed by his companion nemed Hill, for whom active search is being mad

It has been ascertained that Hill and Marshall, the latter being the name by which Lavoic was known, had for several weeks been paying attentions to a waiter girl at a saloon on Harrison-ave., and that a jealous quartel took place between the two men on the day of the tragedy. Lavoic's companion (Hill) wrote a letter to this girl a few weeks ago, and on its being compared with the note found near the dead man, it is said, a strong

John H. Hill, the probable murderer of Marshall, is well known to the detectives of the large cities of the ountry. His picture is in the Rogues' Gallery at the City Hall, and it was positively identified on Sunday by Mr. and Mrs. Orpen, the keepers of the Florence-st. Mr. and Mrs. Orpen, the keepers of the Florence-st. bearding-house. He is about 5 feet 3 inclues high, of dark complexion, and has black hair, moustacke and whiskers. On two or three occasions when arrested he has attempted to shoot his captors. He was fraced to New-York a few days ago by the police, who were looking for him on suspicion of having committed a recent crime. He is known to have had pleuty of money and valuables in his possession, and it is thought he may have left the city.

Active search is being made for him, and the police in all large cities have been notified of his latest crime. Several articles have been found in Lavoic's trunk, which have been identified—some as having been stolen on Beaconsk, others as stolen from Mr. Stillman's residence in Brookiya.

The results of the poet-mortem examination lead to the impression that Lavoic committed snields, but no motive can be ascribed for the act.

A RAILROAD ON THE ICE. MONTREAL, Feb. 23 .- Freight trains are

running regularly across the ice bridge on the St. Law-A DISPUTED RECEIVERSHIP. IBT TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

ALBANY, Feb. 23.—Deputy Attorney-General Ruggies appeared before Judge Westbrook in the Supreme Court to-day, and applied for the appointmen of a receiver for the Rochester and State Line Railroad. Mr. Ruggles stated that a receiver had been ap pointed for the railroad company on the application of the Union Trust Company of New-York. This was done by a Supreme Court Judge at Rechester, on Satur-day last. The Atternay-General was surprised at the

appointment, and wished time to examine into its character. He might apply to have the Rochester receivership set aside. Judge Westbrook allowed the application for a receiver to stand, and postponed action on it for two weeks.

CONSOLIDATING THREE LINES.

IMPORTANT SCHEME IN THE NORTHWEST. A SYNDICATE BUYS A CONTROLLING INTEREST IN THE ST. PAUL AND SIOUX CITY RAILROAD-FORMING A NEW CORPORATION.

A company of prominent railroad men has secured control of the St. Paul and Sioux City Railroad. This syndicate is composed of R. P. Flower, David Dows, Josiah M. Fiske, Heber R. Bishop, Benjamin Brewster, William Schley, George I. Seney, Charles J. Osborn, Henry Seibert, Dennis C. Willeox, M. L. Sykes and Samuel Hawk, of New York; Philetus Sawyer Wisconsin; H. H. Porter and William H. Ferry, Chicago; R. R. Cable and P. L. Cable, Rock Island; E. F. Drake, A. H. Wilder and J. L. Merriam, St. Paul; and Jacob Humbird. Cumberland, Md. These persons have bought 40,000 shares, a controlling interest, in the St. Paul and Sionx City road, for which they have paid, for the common stock 40, and for the preferred stock 80 They own, at the same time, a controlling interest in the Chicago, St. Paul and Minneapolis and the North Wisconsin railroads. From these three companies it is proposed to form a new corporation which will be called the St. Paul, Omaha and Chicago Railroad Company. The terms of the consoli dation have not yet been agreed upon, but it is said by prominent members of the syndicate that there is no doubt of the union of the three companies. The preliminary agreements have been signed, and the completion of the proposed union is simply a matter of detail. Several members of the syndicate will leave New-York on Friday for the purpose of inspecting the lines. It has been said that the roads would fall under

the control of the Chicago and Northwestern Company. This was denied yesterday by members of the syndicate, who said that the new company was formed in the interest of no rathroad organization. Among the members of the new company, the Chicago, St. Paul and Minneapalis Company is represented by H. H. Porter and William H. Ferry, its president and vice-president; the St. Paul and Sioux City, by E. F. Drake, president, John L. Merram, vice-president, and A. H. Wilder, one of the directors; M. L. Sykes, vice-president, and David Dows, R. P. Flower and Charles J. Osbern are directors of the Chicago and Northwestern, and David Dows, vice-president, R. P. Flower, Benjamin Brewster, and R. R. Cable are directors of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pactic Company. The North V isconsin Road has been operated in connection with the Chicago, St. Paul and Minneapolis Road and the same persons represent both interests in the new organization.

The consolidated company will run a line of road 844 miles in length, of which about 200 miles are in process of construction. The extension of the Chicago, St. Paul and Minneapolis Company is The consolidated company will run a line of road 844 miles in length, of which about 200 miles are in process of construction. The extension of the Omaha and Northern Nebraska Road, which was acquired recently by the 8t. Paul and Sioux City Company, is now under contract, and will give a continuous line from St. Paul to Omaha, where it will connect with the Union Pacific and with the Southwestern railroads, The North Wisconsin Road is now in operation from Hudson, on the line of the Minneapolis Road, to Grante Lake. It is proposed to extend the road to Bayfield, on Lake Superior, according to the plans of its original projectors. The distance to be built to complete this road is about 135 milos. It is proposed also by the friends of the new company to extend the Minneapolis Road eastward from Elroy to the shores of Lake Michigan. The traffic arrangement with the Northwestern Road, with which it connects at Eiroy, will not be terminated at present.

When the road with these projected extensions shall be completed, it is claimed that the fixed icharges will amount to only \$760 a mile, or the fixed icharges will amount to only \$760 a mile, or the fixed icharges will amount to only \$760 a mile, or the fixed icharges will amount to only \$760 a mile, or the fixed icharges will amount to only \$760 a mile, or the fixed icharges will amount to this said that the distance from Omaha to New-York by way of St. Paul and the lake is less than by the way of Chicago. The friends of the enterprise believe that the enigration to this part of the Northwest and the natural exchange of traffic will make the property valuable. By the consolidation the Minneapolis Road secured

bas been behended by his own followers. The head was brought in and fully identified."

AMERICAN VINES IN FAVOR.

LONDON, Monday, Feb. 23, 1880.

The Italian Government has offered the control of the Southwest and the natural exchange of traffic will make the property valuable. By the consolidation the Minneapoiis Road secured the benefit of the South City Road. That company is said to own there property worth \$1,000,000, and, except the Chicago, Milwankee and \$1,000,000, and except

STRIKES EXPECTED IN ST. LOUIS.

Louis ays: "Labor troubles are assuming alarming no attempt to interfere with the choice proportions here. Already the wagon-makers, cabinet- of the districts. They hold that it would makers, brass finishers and molders and John Lemoinne editor of the Journal Des on a strike, and the teamsters, printers, tanners, tebae co-rollers, stone cutters and stone masons, store porters pressmen, variablers and journeymen tailors are all or ganizing preparators to striking. There is a general disquietide prevailing more or less in all branches of labor. The goal miners in the Belleville district are

LARGE GIFTS TO WILLIAMS COLLEGE.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Feb. 23 .- The students and faculty of Williams College participated in a biennial Jackson supper at Williamstown to-night.

President Chadbourne announced that J. Z. Goodrich, of Stockbridge, had given the college \$25,000, which, ogether with previous gifts, made him the largest donor o the institution.

He also stated that various other individuals had romised to donate \$20,000.

A COLORED MAN WANTONLY KILLED,

NORFOLK, Va., Feb. 23.-John Dozier, a farmer near Deep Creek, made himself obnoxious to his neighbors by enforcing the fence law. On Thursday neighbors by entorcing the rene have On Thinsany night last his house was surrounded by a nob, who kept up a fushade until Dozler and a colored man left the house by a rear door. In attempting to escape to the woods the colored unn was struck by a ball and killed. No arrests have been made.

HIGHER WAGES FOR MINERS.

CUMBERLAND, Md., Feb. 23 .- The miners in the Cumberland region struck to-day for 65 cents. The New Central, Maryland, Borden, George's Creek and Franklin Companies acceded to the demand, but claim that the accession is only temporary, to file present contracts. It is likely that all the companies will resume in a few days at the advance.

A GREAT STEAMER FOR THE SOUTH.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Feb. 23.—The new steamer ordered by the Georgia Central Railroad from John Rosch & Son has been named the "City of Augusta." She will be one of the largest steamers in the coast trade, having a capacity of 6,000 bales of cotton and fure passenger accommodation.

A LONG BRANCH HOTEL IN NEW HANDS, Long Branch, N. J., Feb. 23.-The East End Hotel, with the adjoining lands, has been sold to Hugh Hastings and John Hoey by Mrs. Jay Gould. The new owners intend to remodel the house in time for occu-pancy this Summer.

SAVAGE LYNCHING IN TEXAS.

GALVESTON, Feb. 23 .- A telegram to The News from Jeff caon says that a man who had confessed to murdering Mrs. Clarke, a respectable woman, was set upon by a mob who saturated his clothing with coal off, set it on fire and hanced him.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

A BOY DROWNED WHILE SKATING.
SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Feb. 23.—Willie Fredericks, stx years old, was drowned at Pitisfield on Sundsy, having proken through the on which he was allding.

broken through ice on which he was allding.

BASE BALL AT NEW-ORLEANS.

NEW-ORLEANS, Feb. 23.—In a game of base ball, here the Hop Bitters Club scored d and the Wrights 2. The game was played to decide a former match in which neither club made any scores.

KILLED WHILE COUPLING CARS.

WATERBURY, Count, Feb. 23.—Robert Hazell, an employed of the New-York and New-England Railroad at this place, was killed while coupling cars this morning. He was forty years old and leaves a window and five children.

PARENTS CONTENDING.

forty years old and leaves a winow and nye children.

PARENTS CONTENDING.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Feb. 23.—In the suit of Emma.
C. Benson, of Lenisville, Ky., against H. C. Benson, her husband, for the possession of their two children, Judge Smith decided in favor of the father retaining them.

ecided in favor of the father retaining them.

INSANITY INCREASING IN NEW-BRUNSWICK.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Feb. 23.—The committal of incame persons to the lunatic asylum is becoming a frequent courrence here. The cause of their insanity is affirmed to avabeen continual broading over the desituate circumstances a which they have lived since the great fire.

In which they have lived since the great fire.

THE MONTREAL HORSE EFIDEMIC.

MONTREAL, Feb. 23.—The smallpox which has broken out among horses excites less alarm as the nature of the disease becomes known. Montreal was visited by it in February, 1877, when it was not as prominent as at present them it was confined to Montreal; now it has spread continued by the s

PRICE FOUR CENTS.

THE PRESIDENTIAL CONTEST.

ARRANGING FOR CONVENTIONS.

THE GRANT MEN IN A LARGE MAJORITY AT UTICA -THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION TO BE HELD AT CINCINNATI ON JUNE 22-A RE-TURNING PRODIGAL.

The advocates of General Grant's nomination to the Presidency will be in a majority at the Republican Convention at Utica tomorrow, but it is not certain that the delega tion to Chicago will be instructed to vote as a unit.

The Democratic National Committee met at Washington yesterday and decided to hold the National Convention at Cincinnati on June 22d. This action is thought to be ad-

verse to the interests of Mr. Tilden. The Republican Convention at Belmont, Allegany County, adopted an anti-third term resolution. A meeting to celebrate General Butler's return to the Democratic party was held at Boston last evening.

THE OUTLOOK AT UTICA.

ONLY A FEW DELEGATES ON THE GROUND-OVER-WHELMING MAJORITY FOR GRANT-CONJEC-TURES AS TO THE COURSE OF THE CONVENTION.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] UTICA. N. Y., Feb. 23 .- The main result of the Republican State Convertion, which meets on Wednesday, has been so well ascertained in advance that the delegates are slow in coming. There is scarcely a baker's dozen on the ground to-night, the most prominent of whom are General Chester A. Arthur, chairman of the State Committee, and Insurance Superintendent Smyth. Talks had with well-informed Republicans to-day, however, both here and in Albany, make it easy to disover what the Convention is likely to do and what

it is likely not to do. The exact figure of General Grant's majority has ceased to be a matter of discussion, since it has been seen to be large enough to give his supporters absolute control of the Convention in all its operations. It becomes difficult to say just what it will be, inasmuch as the preponderance of his vote is almost certain to carry over some delegates, who have no very strong feeling against him, and do not care to make an opposition which will avail nothing.

TWO UNSETTLED QUESTIONS. There are two questions, only two, as to which there is uncertainty, and which may provoke a struggle in the Convention. All agree that resolutions will be large majority indorsing General Grant's candidacy and instructing or requesting the delegates to Chicago to support him in the Convention; but it is still a mooted question whether the delegation shall be instructed to vote as a unit, and also whether there will be any attempt on the part of the Convention to revise the action of the Congressional districts in choosing delegates; in other words to substitute Grant delegates by vete of the Convention for anti-Grant delegates chosen by the districts.

Strong friends of General Grant and Senator Conkling urge the bold course in both cases. They point to the fact that the action of the districts is in reality only a nomination though in practice it has grown to be upon as an election; that the list of delegates chosen by the district is invariably, in Republican conventions in this State, read to the Convention and approved by a formal motion. They insist that there would be no moral wrong in exercising the right in fact, which the Convention has heretofore exercised only in appearance; and therefore believe in making up a united Grant delegation to Chicago by this means

But it is by no means certain that this is to be the policy of the majority. Supporters of General Senator Conkling. Grant and friends of who are quite as well informed concerning the purposes of the party leaders as the gentlemen who take the view just given, be-CINCINNATI, Feb. 23 .- A dispatch from St. lieve that there will be no unit rule and to be almost unanimous for Grant, to press action upon the Convention which would stir up bad blood, simply to make sure of the few remaining votes.

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS. They look for the adoption of some such resolution as that which was adopted at the Syracuse Convention four years ago. The resolutions passed then simply presented the name of Roscoe Conkling to the Republican party as a candidate for President, and requested the delegates to use all honorable means to secure his nomination. This resolution, one of Mr. Conkling's intimate friends said to-night, was regarded as a binding instruction by sixty-nine out of seventy delegates to Cincinnati. Only one delegate refused to consider it as such. Only one man in the State of New-York, this gentleman said, was capable of disregarding such an instruction, and that man was not likely ever to be a delegate again to a Republican Convention. The allusion was to George William Curtis.

This brings up an interesting rumor that has cen floating about for a day or two. Mr. Curtis has engaged rooms here, it is understood, and the leaders of the majority would not be at all surprised to see him appear not be at all surprised to see him appear in the Convention as a delegate from some antiGrant district, by substitution for some delegate aircady elected. This is often done in the Conventions of both parties, when a leader, great or little, suffers such a defeat at home as Mr. Curtis has recently experienced. One of the Grant men in Albany said to-day with a samle: "If Mr. Curtis appears in that Convention we propose to ask him certain questions. We shall ask him whether he supported the nominee of the last Republican State Convention, and also whether he will abide by the action of this Convention."

What would follow was not stated, but it was evident that the Grant men propose to confront Mr. Curtis with his record as a "Scratcher," and are ready to follow up their advantage. It is even hinted that they might go so far as to vote for his expulsion from the Convention.

Mr. Curtis's friends say that he will not be present at the Convention. He was offered an election as delegate from another district than his own, but declined it.

SENATOR CONKLING'S PURPOSES. There are remors that Senator Conkling is already in the city, but it is not definitely known. In the evident division of opinion among his friends respecting the proper course to be pursued on the points mentioned above, his preferences

on the points mentioned above, his preferences become of great interest. They are not definitely known, but many of his friends and some of his opponents look for an aggressive policy. One of the latter said to day: "Mr. Conkling never does things by halves. He could instruct the delegation, and instruct it to vote as a unit, if he had a majority of only one vote 4n the Convention. With the majority he has got, he is not the man to stop half way in any of his purposes."

The number of districts which are likely to choose anti-Grant delegates is variously estimated. By some it is placed at three and not more than four, making the total possible number of anti-Grant delegates eight. Others who are Grant men also think that there may be ten, or even twelve, anti-Grant delegates. It seems to be tolerably certain that the Chautauqua, Dutchess, St. Lawrence and Westchester Districts will be against Grant, electing in all eight delegates. Some of the Grant men admit there is dauger that the Jeferson and Onondaga Districts may go the same way, making twelve delegates in all; but it is expected that Onondaga will probably be for Grant in the end.

The delegates-at-large to Chicago will probably be Senator Conkling, Governor Cornell, General Arthur and James D. Warren of Buffalo.

DELEGATES TO UTICA OPPOSED TO INSTRUCTIONS.

IBT TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUSE. CORTLAND, N. Y., Feb. 23 .- James C. Car-